

Vol. 2, No. 30 — End.

Western Standard

TO CORRECT MIS-REPRESENTATION WE ADOPT SELF-REPRESENTATION.

VOLUME 2.

SAN FRANCISCO, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1857.

NUMBER 30.

Poetry.

This World would be a Paradise.

BY J. C. BELL.

This world would be a paradise
If man would do his duty,
For all the works of God suffice
To fill our homes with beauty;
But we poor mortals do not prize
The lovely scenes before us;
From morn till night we utter sighs,
Thus casting shadows o'er us.
Why should we rail at fortune's freaks,
And yield ourselves to sadness?
True joy is his who for it seeks,
And his alone is gladness.
Why should we look from day to day
For trouble and for sorrow?
Improve the present and be gay,
And fear not care to-morrow.
Too oft we think that we can see
Grave sorrows in the distance,
And thus we brood o'er misery
That has no real existence.
If we have no cares of our own,
We borrow of our neighbors;
We think, of all men, we alone
Perform the greatest labor.
If all would take life as it is,
Their minds from fancy freeing,
This world would be a world of bliss,
And man a happy being.
Yes, earth would be a paradise,
If we would do our duty;
For all the works of God suffice
To fill our homes with beauty.

(From the Dearest News of Aug. 12.)

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND UTAH.

POWERFUL in numbers and wealth, extensive in domain, learned and practical in mechanical arts and the exact sciences, and possessing a land choice above all other lands, the United States had it in their power to become the most free, enlightened and happy government ever instituted by man. Peopled by those who had experienced and fled from intolerance, oppression, and religious persecution in the old world, delivered from the yoke aimed to be fastened by a foreign power, and blessed with a Constitution guaranteeing freedom of conscience, of speech and of the press, it was scarcely presumable that occasion would ever be found for the prudent, cautionary counsels and exhortations to be found in the inaugural addresses of Washington, Adams and Jefferson. But alas for human wisdom, when man rejects the counsels and servants of Jehovah! So recently as March 4, 1797, President Adams rationally and forcibly urged the propagation of "knowledge, virtue, and religion, among all classes of people—as the only means of preserving our Constitution from its natural enemies, the spirit of sophistry, the spirit of party, the spirit of intrigue, the profligacy of corruption;" and within that brief period those very enemies, so wisely cautioned against as destructive "to elective governments," are exercising almost undisputed sway over our Nation and most certainly bid fair to soon accomplish their fore-warded nefarious designs.

Place hunters and spoilsmen, with a hireling clergy and reckless editors to bolster corrupt systems and lash unbridled licentiousness into fury, have the Executive of our nation fast bound hand and foot, and turn him, like a weathercock, to subserving their nefarious purposes, to the utter overthrow of equal laws, of justice and humanity, principles so revered and respected in the early administration of our government. Yes, so much were those principles then respected that President Jefferson, so late as March 4, 1801, asserted "a wise and frugal Government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, and shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement," to be "necessary to make us a happy and prosperous people."

But inasmuch as rotten political pigmies have attained to almost supreme sway in the Government, and are fast trampling under foot the last vestige of "unalienable rights," utterly regardless of the correct teachings and examples of the wise and true patriots and statesmen of the Revolution, it may be asked whether we expect to wean them from the cesspool of

their corruptions, or to prevent the mad officers and crew of the ship of state from pursuing their wild orgies, as they are hopelessly whirled in the narrowing circles of the vortex of destruction. We have no such expectation, for we are aware of the folly of attempting to cast evil spirits out of those who prefer their companionship, and our voice is not loud enough to penetrate the ears of those who are willingly deaf and drunken through the influence of their own unbridled passions. What then do we propose? To freely and truthfully comment upon men and principles, no matter whether high or low, powerful or weak, as opportunity and wisdom may dictate. Also to inform "the powers that be" that we are somewhat acquainted with their inhuman plans and designs, and shall subvert them so far as possible; and, for the benefit of the honest, virtuous and upright the wide world over, shall strive to encourage the noble and good and restrain the vicious.

The United States has millions of acres of unoccupied land, for the rapid settling of which the very genius of our Government requires the extension of every Constitutional facility and encouragement. Utah embraces a large area of mountains, deserts and arid valleys, with three salt lakes, several branches and fresh water springs, and a few scattered, small, navigable rivers, and limited and widely scattered spots and strips of soil rendered fertile by expensive and vexatious irrigation. This "frigidly poor" region was unoccupied previous to 1847, save by the aborigines and a few roving Indian traders, trappers and hunters. Being midway between the Western States and the land of gold, on the best direct central line of over-land communication, did not the Government offer large bounties in land and almost stretch its delegated powers to pave the way for the settlement of so desolate a country? And did they not even shake off a barbarous relic of colonial usage and guarantee to the settlers in such a region, even more fully and cheerfully than is accorded to those dwelling in more desirable locations, the Constitutional right of electing their own officers? We will answer.

In February, 1846, thousands of men, women and children could be seen leaving their homes in Nauvoo and crossing the Mississippi to escape the religious persecution so ruthlessly poured upon them by the State of Illinois, while not a single move was made by the General Government to restrain men from injuring one another. And when crossing the Missouri, after a weary journey through the State of Iowa, they were met, instead of with kindness, commiseration and succor, with a requisition from the United States for a battalion of 500 efficient men to assist in the war with Mexico. This quota, if even any could have been legally called for under the circumstances, was so outrageously and unprecedently large as to plainly manifest what might be expected from the then Administration, which should, according to Jefferson, have extended "equal and exact justice to all men, of whatever state or persuasion, religious or political."

That Battalion, after being so recently thrust from their homes solely because they lived above corruptions and the commission of popular crimes, at a moment's warning turned their backs upon their wives, children and aged parents, upon their brethren and sisters, and least of all upon their teams, wagons and the little all left to them of this world's goods, and performed the most arduous, health-destroying and praiseworthy, but much poorer required service in the acquisition of the very territory of which Utah is a portion. That unfair and inhuman requisition was the first open thrust at the Latter-Day Saints by the Government, but it was met in a manner so different from what was expected, and so different from what any other class thus treated would have met it, that the then design for extermination was foiled. And the ready compliance with such an unheard of requisition, for a long period effectually silenced the most

rabid persecutors of the Saints, and even caused its originator and instigators to blush at cruelty so akin to the characteristics of the fiends of darkness.

In 1847, unfostered and unstained by human aid, but strong in the Spirit of their God, and joyous in the known eternal principles of Heaven, the Saints wended their way to the mountain fastnesses of what is now called Utah, and from that date until now have been busily engaged in the observance of the commandments of God and the counsels of his servants, in framing and abiding good and wholesome laws, and in benefiting and striving to save the human family so far as possible. Within that short time cities have been built containing, aside from the comfortable dwellings of the less affluent, large, tasteful and commodious public and private edifices which would add grace to cities the most favored by time, wealth and other facilities. Many locations, previously nude and unsightly, have, by laborious, persevering, and often unrequited toil, been caused to teem with their rich products for the sustenance of man and beast of the citizen and the stranger. And trees planted and watered with a labor and skill that few would have dreamed of, have now become a forest, where a few scattered trees met the eye. And mills and machinery added their hum to the music of waters hitherto unrestrained. These facts alone are of themselves a perfect refutation of all the lies and slanders uttered against us, whether in regard to our social, moral, political, or religious character and habits, for no people, of the character and habits given us by our enemies, would, could, or ever did, even under the most favorable circumstances, operate in a manner at all comparable, for true worth, with the course and conduct of the Saints in Utah.

Well, for all this toil expended in peopling with patriotic citizens regions where no other people would or will dwell, has not Congress passed for Utah an extra liberal pre-emption law? It has passed pre-emption laws, some more and some less liberal, for all Territories, if we mistake not, except the Territory of Utah! And here alone, where, from the very nature of the country and the just claims of its settlers and the circumstances of its settlement, justice and mercy would require its being freely given to its occupants, as some small remuneration, there is no pre-emption law extended by a Government which proclaims its citizens to be "free and equal." At a late date persons were sent to make scattering surveys within our borders, when it is or should be well known at Washington that even those will never pay for the expense. For although they be made, as we are informed has been the case, at a very cheap rate to the parties entrusted with their execution, by plotting in the office lines never run and corners never seen in the field, and by here and there sticking long stakes so loosely that animals upon the range will rub them down (laid to 'Mormons') and thus obliterate guiding marks to blunders, still the Government pays according to the office returns, and the buyer may hunt his lines and corners as best he can. But perhaps we should find no fault with large pay for not-doing, since it is preferable with some to be unwilling to pay anything for service, unless the service be of a corrupt and corrupting description, or be not-performed.

We are as willing to pay for land as are any other people, and are as fond of valid titles to land, which in unsold lands, whether surveyed or to be surveyed, we recognize and always have recognized to rest with the Government. And who in Utah has ever prohibited or in the least interfered with the customary surveying of public lands? Who refuses to pay for public lands, when they are thrown into market? No one in Utah. But how has it been in Nebraska? Congress passed an act granting a quarter section of land to each settler of a certain description in that Territory, and the Territorial Assembly transcended their bounds and

isolated a half section to each such settler. Is the Assembly in Utah ever ventured upon isolation of any thing like that character? Truly no; and as to land they have only rented possession to certain claims and improvements thereon, as has been customary in new countries, pending the survey and sale by Government. And we again defy the world to point out a single infraction of law by the Latter-Day Saints, either in a legislative, judicial, executive, public or private capacity.

But the unlawful land-legislation in Nebraska is not all the beauty of land practice in that region, for they have organized Clubs to muzzle and defend half sections to their members, and have passed a resolution, among others, in which all who will not join them are to be sundry very hard names, and threatened with all sorts of violence if they in the least dare interfere with the operations of the Clubs. And we are informed that they have already shoved several under the ice, tied up severely whipped others, banished some, and otherwise killed and maltreated those who cross their plans. Is not all that law-breaking and highly praiseworthy? But they do not 'Mormons.' Why not send troops to Nebraska, where Congress is openly legislating by a Territorial Assembly and the Governor, to California, where downright insurrection and rebellion have strode rampantly over all law? Oh, they were not 'Mormons!' Why are not troops sent to New York, Baltimore, Washington and other cities, when the civil authorities are wantonly scouted and blood lawlessly shed by violence reddens their streets? There are no 'Mormons' engaged in those pastimes of civilization!! And last, why send any troops to Utah, where all is peace, industry, law, order, virtue, sobriety, and the daily observance of the principles pertaining to both temporal and spiritual welfare and salvation? Oh, solely for the very reason that they are 'Mormons,' and their upright and virtuous course is so unlike our deeds of darkness that we are determined to make them as lawless, bloodthirsty, and rotten as we are, or exterminate them, if we have the power.

To pave the way for the accomplishment of so laudable (?) a design, and if possible to goad us to some overt act which can be seized upon for a plausible pretext, they persist in the barbarous colonial usage of thrusting strange and outside officers upon us contrary to our lawful and oft expressed unanimous choice, and the majority of whom are most well known to be utterly base and unworthy. President Jefferson in his address already quoted from, specifies "a JEALOUS care of the right of ELECTION BY THE PEOPLE" to be one of "the essential principles of our Government." But within a few days over 56 years from that date, and in the same professed Republic, at least one of President Buchanan's Cabinet has styled our Legislative Assembly disrespectful and threatening, because, forsooth, they plainly, though most respectfully, set forth their Constitutional rights in the matter of officers for Utah, and that too most strictly in accordance with the teachings of Thomas Jefferson, the great father of the party now in power. But what better can be expected from such pigmy sons of Revolutionary sires, who in so few short years have sunk to so low a depth of degradation!! Halloo in the ears of the deaf, or preach repentance to the devil, all you who have hopes of success in such a course; but for our part we do not look for justice from a power which has striven all the day long, both secretly and openly, to exterminate us from the earth.

And now, after having briefly sketched a portion of Governmental usage to 'Mormons,' we actually wish our Government to cease beating about the bush, and to frankly and manfully, if they have any manhood, proclaim to us and the world what course they intend to pursue towards the Latter-Day Saints. If you are too sneaking and cowardly to show your hand, but persist in the same oppressive

and suspicious conduct you have heretofore, except during the administration of President Fillmore and partially that of President Pierce, you can but expect that the ardor of our patriotism will at some period cool, for there is always a limit to the human endurance of injustice and tyranny.

If you intend to continue the appointment of certain officers, we respectfully suggest that you appoint actually intelligent and honorable men who will wisely attend to their own duties, and send them unaccompanied by troops, which you yourselves well know are of no lawful use here, and your officers will be respected and treated strictly according to their acts and merits, as you also well know has always been the case, except that we did not hang up some of the infernal scoundrels you have heretofore sent, as they most richly deserved. And if you will not receive this fair counsel, but persist in sending us officials from the tag, rag and bobtail of whose houses, grog shops and gambling dens, we shall take the Yankee liberty of guessing your kind (?) intentions towards us, and shall also take the liberty for the first time, of using that class of officials strictly in accordance with their deserts.

Should you elect to send the last named class, and should they venture to come and act out their infernal nature, they may rest assured that a far larger body-guard than 2500 soldiers, sent not only to prevent your sending an ignorant soldiery into trouble, and to a region whose manners and society are not congenial to them, but also that such officials may have a characteristic and reasonably numerous guard, we respectfully suggest that you invite to that service particularly all the hireling priests, editors and other infernal liars who have for years been pouring their venom upon us and striving to banish 'Constitutional principles' and all saving truth from the earth. It would be rather amusing to see how that class of characters would appear at the meeting, for they have been exceedingly diligent in their abortive attempts to successfully charge error, crime, or outrage to the doctrine and conduct of the Saints. And when foiled in lie upon lie, they have renewed the attack, with a zeal worthy a better cause, and pertinaciously continued to make lies their refuge.

Why cannot our Government at least listen to the counsel of Jefferson and be 'wise and frugal'—restrain men from injuring one another and leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement? Why not wisely expend the immense national revenue in paying off the national debt, in making railroads, improving rivers and harbors, settling the public domain, and in using every proper method to promote the peace, welfare and prosperity of a great people? But let the wicked take what course they may, and though the President, his Cabinet, Congress, and others recklessly break and trample upon the Constitution, that will not alter the course of the people in Utah, for it is our duty to stand by and preserve it though all others forsake it; and most manfully and faithfully will that duty be fulfilled.

We are fond of peace and will have it, even though we have to fight for it, as did the Quaker in Connecticut. An old gentleman went from New York to Connecticut on a visit, and while there he met a man who abused him. When he returned to his home he told his son of the bad treatment he had met with, and described to him the person who had misused him and the place where it occurred. The son was a strong man and a fighting character, and after brooding awhile over the subject, he started for the place described. Upon his arrival he met a man dressed in Quaker costume, who very well filled the description, and he at once accused him of having at a certain time grossly abused his father. The Quaker stoutly denied the accusation, but the son persisted and told him that he was bound to whip him. The Quaker, finding remonstrance and his protestations of innocence to be in vain, laid off his coat and

bat and said, 'lie there, religion, until I give this fellow a whipping,' which he did most effectually.

21 ¶ Woe to the multitude of many people, which make a noise like the noise of the seas; and to the rushing of nations, that make a rushing like the rushing of mighty waters!

13 The nations shall rush like the rushing of many waters: but God shall rebuke them, and they shall flee far off, and shall be chased as the chaff of the mountains before the wind, and like a rolling thing before the whirlwind.

14 And behold at eveningtide trouble; and before the morning he is not. This is the portion of them that spoil us, and the lot of them that rob us.—[Isiah xvii.]

RABBI AKEBA BEN JOSEPH.—Rabbi Akeba Ben Joseph, and some of his disciples were passing the ruins of the holy temple, when a jackal came out from the place where the Holy of Holies formerly stood, where the glory of the Lord had formerly throned over the cherubim. His companions began bitterly to weep at the sight, while the Rabbi burst out into joy. His astonished disciples exclaimed, "Rabbi, why dost thou laugh?" "Why do you weep?" was his reply. "How can we refrain from weeping," answered they, "when we see the glorious and holy temple of the Lord in ashes, the idolatrous heathen lorded it over the ruins, and the Jews were scattered among the nations?"

Now the abode of unclean animals? How is it possible that the eyes which see this destruction and desecration—caused by our sins, and those of our ancestors,—should abstain from shedding abundant tears, or the oppressed bosom from giving vent to its poignant grief?" "Aye," said the Rabbi, "the prophet said, 'The mountain of Zion is desolate; jackals walk upon it; and ye weep because ye have seen this fearful denunciation fulfilled;' but the same prophet has likewise said, 'Thus saith the Lord, Behold, I will bring again the captivity of Jacob's tents, and have mercy on his dwelling places; and the city shall be rebuilt upon her ruins, and the temple shall be restored to its former manner. And out of them shall proceed thanksgiving, and the voice of rejoicing: And I will multiply them, and they shall not be diminished; I will glorify them, and they shall not be humbled.'"

EASTERN FASHION.—A young and very rich man, while taking a walk in the suburban village of Cleveland, Ohio, met a young, fashionable and very pretty married lady, and, after chatting very pleasantly with her, received and accepted an invitation to call at her house next morning when her husband would be "down town." The engagement was kept; the lady was fascinating, charming, seductive; the young man was fascinated, charmed, seduced. But in the midst of their joy the husband broke in and raved furiously. Husband swore and presented pistols; lady fainted and put on a wrapper; young man trembled and asked for life. Husband relented and would keep quiet for \$3000; young man gained confidence, and proposed \$1300; husband consented; young man gave check for \$1000 and paid \$300 in cash, and then departed. He told his friends, they were indignant, and at length got out a warrant. An officer went off to look for the injured husband and faithless wife. He found them shopping, having already obtained the money on the check. He carried them to jail. They got afraid, paid back \$1250 and were set free—both giving a release for all damages to wounded honor, etc.

ACORN ON WILLOWS.—The Amador Ledger says "there has recently been discovered upon the ridge between Volcano and Jackson a most remarkable freak of nature, viz.: a willow tree bearing acorns."

A CURTAIN LECTURE.—A woman in a town of New Hampshire was recently abused by her husband. That night she quietly sewed him up in the bed clothes, while he was asleep, and then thrashed him within an inch of his life.

